

PATENT APPLICATION
Q-57442

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Bernard DABEZIES et al

PCT/FR99/01172, filed
May 17, 1999

Appln. No. (Not Yet Known)

Filed: January 4, 2000

For: METHOD OF LASER WELDING OVERLAPPING SHEETS AND CORRESPONDING
RAILWAY VEHICLE BODY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 CFR §1.97(e) or fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a counterpart International

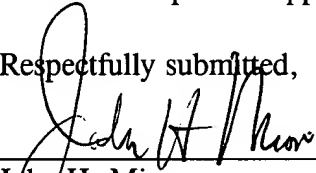
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Search Report citing such documents, together with an English-language version of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the International Patent Office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

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